

WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM



Pool & Fountain Maintenance

Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Releasing pollutants directly or indirectly into the storm drain system or waterways is a violation of the County's Watershed Protection Ordinance (WPO). Below is a list of BMPs that may be applicable to your business. This list is not all inclusive; refer to the WPO for further details. For more information call your inspector or the Stormwater Hotline at (888) 846-0800.

On the Job

- ☐ Pool, spa, and fountain water from private pools may be discharged to the storm drain system if the water contains 0 ppm of chlorine or bromine prior to discharge. Also, pool, spa, and fountain water discharged after acid wash shall be neutralized to a pH of 7.2-8.0.
- ☐ Sweep and pick up any trash, debris, and sediment in the downstream area prior to draining pool or fountain water.
- ☐ Backwash water may not be discharged to the storm drain system, but may be disposed to: the sanitary sewer (with permission from the local sewer agency); or to a holding tank or settling pond; or where allowed by infiltration to the soil, with permission from the property owner. Residue may contain pathogens; do not drain water to children's play areas.
- ☐ Prior to draining "green pools", filter algae and non-hazardous debris (such as leaves and twigs). Dry out debris and algae for disposal to trash.

Materials & Waste Management

- ☐ Maintain all hazardous materials in accordance with the MSDS, all applicable laws and regulations.
- ☐ Store hazardous materials and waste off the ground, under cover, and away from rain.
- ☐ Securely store all materials and equipment in the vehicle during transport. Provide adequate containment to prevent incompatible chemicals from mixing during transport.
- ☐ Use secondary containment for storage areas that are likely to create a discharge.
- ☐ Whenever possible, berm and cover all equipment storage areas.
- ☐ Maintain all storage containers in good condition; keep these items securely closed when not in use.
- ☐ Inspect storage areas at least once before the rainy season (October 1-April 30) and quarterly during the rainy season and document results. Keep records for two years.
- ☐ Keep copies of procedures, materials and equipment necessary for spill response in every vehicle and at headquarters. Promptly clean up spills and leaks as they occur.
- ☐ Contain all spills on-site. Immediately report any spills of hazardous materials that reach the storm drain system by calling the Hazardous Materials Division at (619) 338-2284 or 9-1-1 after normal working hours. Report non-hazardous materials spills to the Stormwater Hotline at (888) 846-0800.

Training

- ☐ Train all operators, employees, and workers responsible for activities that could result in an unauthorized discharge on BMPs specific for the activity.
- ☐ Training shall include: preventive maintenance, good housekeeping, proper waste disposal, non-stormwater disposal alternatives, equipment maintenance and repair, spill response, recycling, and BMP maintenance. Keep training records on-site.
- ☐ Provide corrective action training whenever an illegal disposal practice is discovered.





Headquarters Grounds Maintenance

- ☐ Review the operations and procedures relating to protecting stormwater conveyance system and receiving waters from pollutants at least annually. Maintain, on site, documented evidence of the annual review, and provide the documentation upon request of the inspector.
- ☐ Use dry methods such as sweeping, vacuuming, raking, and application of absorbents to cleanup pollutants.
- ☐ Routinely sweep and clean parking lots and paved areas around your business.
- ☐ Where practicable, provide trash cans with lids in your parking lot to discourage littering.
- ☐ Post signs prohibiting discharges to the stormwater conveyance system or receiving waters, when required by the inspector.
- ☐ Sweep up dirt, leaves, and clippings on walkways, street, and gutters on a regular basis.
- ☐ Use pesticides and fertilizers according to label instructions and do not apply the chemicals before a rain event. Try using less toxic alternatives. Properly dispose of all landscaping chemicals.
- ☐ Adjust sprinkler heads to avoid over-watering and runoff.
- ☐ Contain and cover stockpiles of materials such as soils, fertilizer, or potting material.
- ☐ Protect disturbed slopes that are more than 3-feet in height, and steeper than 3:1 (run-to-rise) from erosion.
- ☐ Periodically clean the rooftops of your building and maintain rooftop equipment to prevent leaks and spills. Remove any materials which may contaminate stormwater from the roof. Substances such as bird droppings, grease, leaves, that have accumulated on rooftops shall be removed, to prevent or reduce the discharge of contaminants.
- ☐ Direct roof downspouts toward pervious areas such as lawns, whenever possible.
- ☐ Never allow wash water or rinse water from building and pavement washing to discharge to the storm drain system or water ways. Collect and contain it for treatment, re-use, or proper disposal.
- ☐ Temporarily cover storm drain inlets that are located within or down gradient of your business before performing any activity involving liquids that could result in spills, leaks, or runoff.

Dumpster & Loading Areas

- ☐ Inspect all trash storage and disposal areas weekly.
- ☐ Keep supplies to clean trash and loading areas readily accessible.
- ☐ Sweep up litter and debris around trash bins and loading areas regularly.
- ☐ Dispose of non-hazardous liquid waste into the sewer system, as allowed by the local sewer agency.
- ☐ Keep trash dumpsters, grease bins and other containers securely closed, and in clean and leak proof condition. Contact the waste hauler to replace damaged or leaking trash bins.
- ☐ Use dry methods (sweeping, vacuuming, mop and bucket) to clean out waste containers; if hosing or pressure washing is needed, contain all wash water on-site for proper disposal.
- ☐ Load and unload materials in designated areas. Maintain loading equipment and repair any leaks.

The Watershed Protection Ordinance may be found at www.sdcdpw.org/WPO

Additional BMP information can be found at www.projectcleanwater.org/bmp

For additional information on Swimming Pool Requirements please visit:

<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/water/pool.html>



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM

(888) 846-0800 • FAX (858) 495-5263

Revised: May 2009

